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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/606,811	06/28/2000	Jian Wang	MSI-452US	6463

22801 7590 09/02/2004

LEE & HAYES PLLC
421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500
SPOKANE, WA 99201

EXAMINER

OPSASNICK, MICHAEL N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2655

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/606,811	WANG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael N. Opsasnick	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 53-88 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 53-88 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/28/2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/23/2001</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On pages 1,12,30 of the specification, the serial number for the referred to related applications are missing (on line 10 and 24). Please fill in the appropriate serial number (examiner notes that one possible serial number is 09/615726; please check and verify). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 53,54,56-63,65-70,72-75,77-80,82-85,87,88 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miike et al (5214583).

As per claims 53,74,87,88, Miike et al (5214583) teaches a language input user interface (as language translator –col. 2 lines 37-47) comprising:

Art Unit: 2655

“a line based entry area; an input text displayed with the line based entry area; and an output text.....area” as character key input, edit region, and translated region (Figs. 2+3)

As per claims 54,75, Miike et al (5214583) teaches the input text comprises phonetic text and the output text is character based (as morpheme and grammar translation (Fig. 5, and character output – fig. 7)

As per claims 56,77, Miike et al (5214583) teaches a horizontal interface (Fig. 2)

As per claims 57,78, Miike et al (5214583) teaches replacing the original word with the translated word as the output text – Fig. 6b, T9)

As per claim 58, Miike et al (5214583) teaches the user editing the input, to change the output, based on the original output (col. 5 lines 51-54)

As per claim 59, Miike et al (5214583) teaches a conversion process that ignore no-word characters, such as a “/”, which can be construed as punctuations (col. 5 line 62 – col. 6 line 29)

As per claim 60, Miike et al (5214583) teaches a no editing mode, which results in the output text is fixed (abstract)

Art Unit: 2655

As per claims 61,79, Miike et al (5214583) teaches selecting the edit areas for translation (fig. 4, subblock S4-S10 → wherein the edit area is selected, not the mode)

As per claim 62, Miike et al (5214583) teaches edit window adjacent to output text (Fig. 3)

As per claims 63,80, Miike et al (5214583) teaches line based entry orthogonal to the edit window (fig. 3)

As per claims 65,82, Miike et al (5214583) teaches listing a plurality of candidates (Fig. 3), indicating a layout to show more than one possibility (Figs. 9 and 10)

As per claim 66, Miike et al (5214583) teaches listing the candidates according to alphabetical ranking (for e.g., fig. 16, “computer” generates a list of 302,305, and 341, as shown in Fig. 15)

As per claim 67, Miike et al (5214583) teaches listing the candidates in a display; Examiner takes Official Notice that it is old and notoriously well known in the art of displays to have a scrollable list of items, so that when the list is bigger than the screen itself, the user can access the rest of the list by scrolling.

As per claims 68,83, Miike et al (5214583) teaches a first candidate list of possibilities with a second candidate list containing the whole set for e.g., fig. 16, “computer” generates a list of 302,305, and 341, as shown in Fig. 15).

As per claim 69, Miike et al (5214583) teaches listing the items from being more complex to less complex (Fig. 14)

As per claim 70, Miike et al (5214583) teaches arranging a first candidate list according to decrease complexity (fig. 14) and a second list that is different (in this instance, not complexity, but alphabetically—Fig. 15)

As per claims 72,84,87,88, Miike et al (5214583) teaches the input phonetic and non-phonetic text to be displayed with the output text (as morphological analysis of the input, which is not limited to characters only (Fig. 9, col. 6 lines 5-15 -- kanja and katakana)

As per claims 73,85, Miike et al (5214583) teaches machine translator (col. 3 lines 33-43).

Art Unit: 2655

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claim 86 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pratley et al (6356866).

As per claim 86, Pratley et al (6356866) teaches a typing model to receive an input string written in a phonetic text.....entered as the input string” as performing error correction of a candidate string (Fig. 4)

“a language model...candidate string” as comparing the kana string to see if it a correct conversion (fig. 4, subblocks 410,425,430)

“a search engine.....probability” as conversion based upon the probabilities (abstract, col. 8 line 65 – col. 9 line 24)

“a user interface to display.....common line” as output display with converted substring + remaining kana (Fig. 3, subblock 365).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2655

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 55 and 76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miike et al (5214583).

As per claims 55 and 76, Miike et al (5214583) does not explicitly teach Chinese Pinyin and Chinese Hanzi as the input/output languages, respectively. However, Miike et al (5214583) teaches any language pair (col. 7 lines 60-85). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of language translation to modify the teachings of Miike et al (5214583) to use Chinese Pinyin and Chinese Hanzi as input/output because it is a design choice as suggested by Miike et al (col. 7 lines 60-65).

8. Claims 64,71,81 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miike et al (5214583) in view of Pratley et al (6356866).

As per claims 64,71, and 81, Miike et al (5214583) does not explicitly teach using an input text hint, however, Pratley et al (6356866) teaches a feedback of a corrected version of already inputted text (Fig. 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of language interfaces to modify the teachings of Miike et al (5214583) with a corrected (hinted) version because it would offer the user a list of most probable to least probable matches (Pratley et al (6356866), col. 10 lines 13-17).

Art Unit: 2655

As per claim 71, the combination of Miike et al (5214583) in view of Pratley et al (6356866) further teaches listing a plurality of candidates (Miike et al (5214583), Fig. 3), indicating a layout to show more than one possibility (Miike et al (5214583) Figs. 9 and 10)

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Please see related art listed on the PTO-892 form.

10. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872 9314,
(for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).


11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick, telephone number (703)305-4089, who is available Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Doris To, can be reached at (703)305-4827. The facsimile phone number for this group is (703)872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750, the 2600 Customer Service telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mno
8/28/2004


W. R. YOUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER